

## ENTERPRISE DIRECTORY SERVICE

### ABSTRACT

5 An apparatus and method provides directory service to software applications throughout an enterprise. Directory entries are kept in a data store. A web server having one or more API's is coupled to the data store. The web server may have an API locator for selecting an appropriate API. An enterprise software application such as a purchasing or accounts payable transaction requests directory information by sending a query to an appropriate wrapper based on the programming language, protocol or format of the application. The wrapper sends the request to the appropriate API which then sends a request to the data store. A directory entry is received and returned to the enterprise.